



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/692,031	10/19/2000	Richard Baker Winslow	37631/DWR/S850	5435

23363 7590 02/13/2003

CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP
350 WEST COLORADO BOULEVARD
SUITE 500
PASADENA, CA 91105

EXAMINER

PHAM, HUNG Q

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2172

DATE MAILED: 02/13/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/692,031

Applicant(s)

WINSLOW, RICHARD BAKER

Examiner

HUNG Q PHAM

Art Unit

2172

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 December 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 11-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 11-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) <u>4 & 5</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant elects group II, claims 11-23 without traverse and cancels claims 1-10, and 24-48 in the Response to Restriction Requirement received on 12/18/2002. The pending claims are 11-23.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. **Claims 11-12, 14, and 16-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wesinger, Jr. et al. [USP 6,324,538 B1].**

Regarding to claim 11, Wesinger teaches a method for providing information, searching and retrieving data from a database (Col. 2, line 60-Col. 3, line 9). When a user first visits the site, he or she is presented with a main page as in FIG. 2A. When the icon 205 is selected, the user is presented with a page as in FIG. 2G. When the Search option is selected, the user is presented with a page as in FIG. 2H. When

Art Unit: 2172

Example is selected, the user is presented with a page as in FIG. 2K for entering the information to be searched in any field or combination of fields to be searched such as name, phone, and address information... (Col. 4, line 42-Col. 5, line 58). This technique indicates the server as in FIG. 1A *receiving the address from a source*. Wesinger does not explicitly teach the steps of *accessing a database that contains one or more valid addresses; comparing the address from the user with the database of valid addresses; and storing information relating to the address in a companion file if a match is found*. However, Wesinger further discloses: if the user chooses to search the database, a search may be performed on one or more of a number of different database fields, depending on the organization of the database entries. The database entries include the following defined fields (Col. 8, lines 15-35):

uid	country
fname	email
lname	url
mname	keywords
title	comment
ident	category
phone 1	active
phone 2	start_date
fax	expire_date
addr	info1 (Reserved)
city	info2 (Reserved)
state	info3 (Reserved)
zipcode	info4 (Reserved)

Thus, a search is performed on one or more of a number of different database fields indicates the step of *accessing a database that contains one or more valid addresses*.

Wesinger further discloses that the search then returns information concerning entries having matching information in those fields. Entries are displayed in list fashion by title on a page 309 as in FIG. 3 (Col. 8, lines 44-52) as the steps of *comparing the address*

from the user with the database of valid addresses; and storing information relating to the address in a companion file if a match is found. Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Wesinger system by including the steps of accessing the database, comparing the address and storing information if a match is found, and by including these techniques, the Wesinger method could be used for searching geographical data in an address database maintained by the server.

Regarding to claim 12, Wesinger teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 11, Wesinger further discloses the step of *receiving the address comprises importing the address from a database of addresses* (Col. 8, lines 15-47).

Regarding to claim 14, Wesinger teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 11, Wesinger further discloses the steps of *receiving a second address from the source; comparing selected information from the second address with stored information in the companion file; approving the address for use if the selected information corresponds with the stored information in the companion file; and accessing the database of valid addresses if no match is found* (Col. 6, lines 24-36 and Col. 7, lines 36-42).

Regarding to claim 16, Wesinger teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 11, Wesinger further discloses the step of *accessing a remote database over a communication network* (FIG. 1A).

Regarding to claim 17, Wesinger teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 16, Wesinger further discloses *the database is maintained by a remote address matching server* (FIG. 1A).

Regarding to claim 18, Wesinger teaches a method for providing information, searching and retrieving data from a database (Col. 2, line 60-Col. 3, line 9). When a user first visits the site, he or she is presented with a main page in HTML as in FIG. 2A. When the icon 205 is selected, the user is presented with a page as in FIG. 2G. When the Search option is selected, the user is presented with a page as in FIG. 2H. When Example is selected, the user is presented with a page as in FIG. 2K for entering the information to be searched in any field or combination of fields to be searched such as name, phone, and address information... (Col. 4, line 29-Col. 5, line 58). This technique indicates the server as in FIG. 1A *receiving the address data in a particular format*. Wesinger does not explicitly teach the steps of *manipulating the data into a predetermined format corresponding to said particular format; comparing data in the predetermined format with valid addresses in the database; and presenting the results if one or more matches are found*. However, as shown in FIG. 1A-B, a server site 101 is connected to a computer network 103. At the server site, server software runs on a suitable server platform. Also running, either on the same machine or a network-accessible machine, is a database management system 107, which supports Standard Query Language, or SQL. SQL databases, however, are not inherently "Web-friendly." Accordingly, a variety of HTML

Art Unit: 2172

front-ending tools 109 are provided which run as extensions to the server software, allowing computer network users to each add entries to a database, search entries in the database, and update entries by that particular user, all using the Web graphical user interface. The server software and the HTML front-ending tools communicate through the Common Gateway Interface 111. The HTML front-ending tools and the database communicate through SQL 113. Thus, the HTML data is manipulated into SQL or *a predetermined format corresponding to particular format*. Wesinger further discloses: if the user chooses to search the database, a search may be performed on one or more of a number of different database fields, depending on the organization of the database entries. The database entries include the following defined fields (Col. 8, lines 15-35):

uid	country
fname	email
lname	url
mname	keywords
title	comment
ident	category
phone 1	active
phone 2	start_date
fax	expire_date
addr	info1 (Reserved)
city	info2 (Reserved)
state	info3 (Reserved)
zipcode	info4 (Reserved)

The search then returns information concerning entries having matching information in those fields. Entries are displayed in list fashion by title on a page 309 as in FIG. 3 (Col. 8, lines 15-52). This technique indicates the steps of *comparing data in the predetermined format with valid addresses in the database; presenting the results if one or more matches are found*. Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the

Art Unit: 2172

time the invention was made to modify the Wesinger system by including the steps of manipulating the database, comparing the address and presenting information if a match is found, and by including these techniques, the Wesinger method could be used for searching geographical data in an address database maintained by the server.

Regarding to claim 19, Wesinger teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 18, Wesinger further discloses the step of *accessing a remote database of addresses over a communication network* (Col. 3, line 64-Col. 4, line 38).

Regarding to claim 20, Wesinger teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 19, Wesinger further discloses *the database is maintained by a remote address matching server* (FIG. 1A, Col. 3, line 64-Col. 4, line 41), and Col. 8, lines 15-47).

Regarding to claim 21, Wesinger teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 18, Wesinger further discloses the step of *applying a plurality of query permuters to the address data to convert the data into respective formats* (FIG. 2K).

Regarding to claim 22, Wesinger teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 21, Wesinger further discloses the step of *applying at least one of a direct permuter and a single line permuter to the address data* (FIG. 2K).

Regarding to claim 23, Wesinger teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 22, Wesinger further discloses the step of *applying a truncate permuter to the output structure of the direct permuter* (Col. 8, lines 37-52).

4. Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wesinger, Jr. et al. [USP 6,324,538 B1] in view of Hooper et al. [USP 5,819,282].

Regarding to claim 13, Wesinger teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 12, but fails to disclose: *the address from the database of addresses is saved as comma-separated value (CSV) data, and further including: determining selected characteristics of the database of addresses; and processing the CSV address data based on the characteristics of the database of addresses*. Hooper teaches a method for creating a database by storing a plurality of data objects in a memory. Each data object has attributes including a key value and a data value. The data objects are partitioned into a plurality of classes, each class having one or more members, each member including the same attributes of the data objects. An access method is defined for at least one member of a specific class to access the data objects of the specific class by key values (Hooper, Abstract). Hooper further discloses the data *from the database is saved as comma-separated value (CSV) data, and further including: determining selected characteristics of the database; and processing the CSV data based on the characteristics of the database* (FIG. 5-6, Col. 4, line 11-Col. 7, line 47). Therefore, it would have been

Art Unit: 2172

obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Wesinger method by using the technique as taught by Hooper for saving the address data as CSV data, determining, and processing the CSV address in order to have an easier, and faster way for manipulating data in an address database.

5. Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wesinger, Jr. et al. [USP 6,324,538 B1] in view of Viridy [USP 6,148,289].

Regarding to claim 15, Wesinger teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 14, but fails to disclose the step of *comparing the second address with the stored addresses in the companion file comprises determining whether a stored address in the companion file is stale, and rejecting the stored address if it is stale*. Viridy teaches a method for classifying a source publishing a document on a portion of a network. Viridy further discloses the step of *comparing the second address with the stored addresses in the companion file comprises determining whether a stored address in the companion file is stale, and rejecting the stored address if it is stale* (Viridy, Col. 5, line 17-Col. 6, line 12).

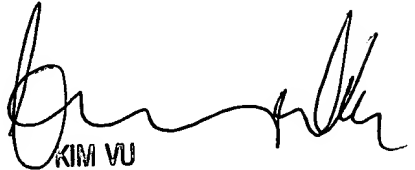
Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Wesinger method by including the step of comparing and rejecting the address if it is stale in order to update an address database.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hung Pham whose telephone number is 703-605 4242. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7:00 Am - 3:30 Pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, VU, KIM YEN can be reached on 703-305 4393. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746 7239 for regular communications and 703-746 7238 for After Final communications. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305 3900.

Examiner: Hung Pham
January 27, 2003


KIM VU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

Attachment for PTO-948 (Rev. 03/01, or earlier)
6/18/01

The below text replaces the pre-printed text under the heading, "Information on How to Effect Drawing Changes," on the back of the PTO-948 (Rev. 03/01, or earlier) form.

INFORMATION ON HOW TO EFFECT DRAWING CHANGES

1. Correction of Informalities -- 37 CFR 1.85

New corrected drawings must be filed with the changes **incorporated** therein. Identifying indicia, if provided, should include the title of the invention, inventor's name, and application number, or docket number (if any) if an application number has not been assigned to the application. If this information is provided, it must be placed on the front of each sheet and centered within the top margin. If corrected drawings are required in a Notice of Allowability (PTOL-37), the new drawings **MUST** be filed within the **THREE MONTH** shortened statutory period set for reply in the Notice of Allowability. Extensions of time may **NOT** be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) or (b) for filing the corrected drawings after the mailing of a Notice of Allowability. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

2. Corrections other than Informalities Noted by Draftsperson on form PTO-948.

All changes to the drawings, other than informalities noted by the Draftsperson, **MUST** be made in the same manner as above except that, normally, a highlighted (preferably red ink) sketch of the changes to be incorporated into the new drawings **MUST** be approved by the examiner before the application will be allowed. No changes will be permitted to be made, other than correction of informalities, unless the examiner has approved the proposed changes.

Timing of Corrections

Applicant is required to submit the drawing corrections within the time period set in the attached Office communication. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Failure to take corrective action within the set period will result in **ABANDONMENT** of the application.